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Liam Lustberg Wins Statewide Spelling Bee

COLCHESTER – Liam Lustberg bested 40 other students from across Vermont to win the Vermont State Spelling Bee on Wednesday, March 19, 2014. Lustberg, an 8th grader from [Frederick H. Tuttle Middle School](#), will now compete against top spellers from every other state in the nation in the Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C. in June.

The winning word was “pogrom,” a noun which means “an organized massacre and looting of helpless people usually with the connivance of officials.” Lustberg pronounced and spelled the winning word correctly in round 26.

Lucinda Storz, a 5th grader at [Thaddeus Stevens School](#), came in second. Isabelle Petrucci, a 7th grader at [Albert D. Lawton Middle School](#), came in third.

In addition to advancing to the national spelling bee, Liam Lustberg received a trophy and an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C., sponsored by FairPoint Communications, Barre Times Argus / Rutland Herald, Vermont Humanities Council, Vermont Principals Association (VPA), and Vermont Agency of Education. For more information on the national bee, visit <http://www.spellingbee.com/>.

Elementary and middle school students (through grade 8) under the age of 16 were eligible to participate in this competition. Students from across Vermont who participated in the Spelling Bee already competed in their regional bees this winter.

Bob Johnson of the VPA introduced the event, which was held in the McCarthy Arts Center at Saint Michael’s College. David Moats of the Barre Times Argus / Rutland Herald served as pronouncer for the event. Peter Gilbert, Vermont Humanities Council Executive Director; Beth Fastiggi, FairPoint Communications State President; and Steve Pappas, Barre Times Argus Editor; served as judges this year. Catherine Nelson of the Rutland Herald and Bob Johnson of the VPA presented the awards.

For more information, contact Bob Johnson at the Vermont Principals’ Association at (802) 229-0547, Angela Ross at the Vermont Agency of Education at (802) 828-3154 or Linda Wrazen at the Vermont Humanities Council at (802) 262-2626, ext. 309.

See the next page for a list of participants.

Connect with the Vermont Agency of Education on Twitter (<https://twitter.com/VTEducation>), Facebook (www.facebook.com/VTEducation), and YouTube (www.youtube.com/VTEducation).

2014 Vermont Spelling Bee Participants

<u>Student</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Grade</u>
Olivia Schneider	Albany Community School	8
Isabelle Petrucci	Albert D Lawton Intermediate School	7
Calista Hanna	Barre City Elementary Middle School	7
Logan Taylor	Barre Town Middle Elementary School	8
Grace LaFromboise	Bethel Elementary School	6
Cooper Densmore	Brighton Elementary School	7
Benjamin Weinstein	Camels Hump Middle School	5
Andrew Silverman	Charlotte Central School	8
Sophia Moore-Smith	Christ The King School	8
Harley Miller-Rowley	Crossett Brook Middle School	7
Cassidy Beisler	Dothan Brook School	5
Emma Barker	Edmunds Middle School	6
Liam Lustberg	Frederick H Tuttle Middle School	8
Gavin Ghafoori	Good Shepherd Catholic School	5
Erin Magill	Harwood Union Middle High School	8
Emmalee Henderson	Isle La Motte Elementary School	5
Vince Ferrizzi	Leland Gray Union Mid/high School	7
Sullivan Weston	Lyman C Hunt Middle School	6
Wilson Krause	Lyndon Town School	5
Eric Grey	Main Street Middle School	8
Chloe Clark	Mary Hogan School	5
Beatrice Shlansky	Mater Christi School	8
Eric MacLaughlin	Milton Elementary School	7
Zoe Brosky	Missisquoi Valley Union Middle School	7
Veronica Stevens	NewBrook Elementary School	6
DeLu Lee	Oak Meadow Home School	6
Joseph Wills	Richford Junior Senior High School	8
Kaci Cochran	Riverside School	7
Callum Smathers	Rutland Intermediate School	4
Thomas Daley	Shelburne Community School	8
Miguel Levy	Shrewsbury Mountain Elementary School	2
Alice Early	St. Mary School	3
Emma Rogers	Stockbridge Central School	4
Fiona Reed	Stowe Middle High School	8
Jordan Bourdeau	Swanton Central School	5
Lucinda Storz	Thaddeus Stevens School	5
Clare Swanson	Thetford Academy	8
Eamon Deffner	Thetford Elementary School	6
Cameron Brock	Tunbridge Central School	8
Zachary Fucci	Waterford Elementary School	7
Ananth Malladi	Williston Central School	8